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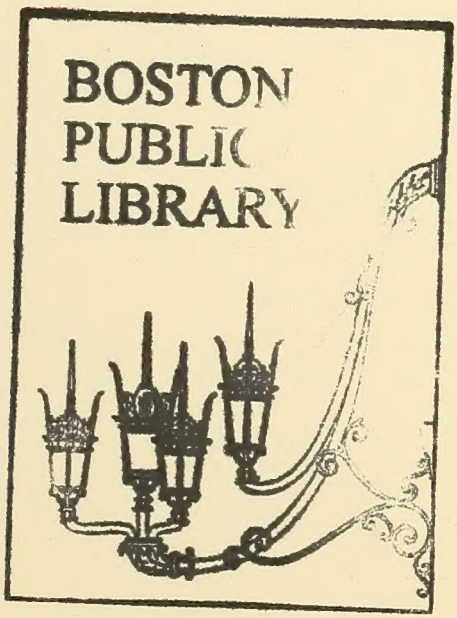

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copley square competition

boston / massachusetts

John F. Collins
Mayor
of the City of Boston
announces a national, one-stage competition for the design of historic Copley Square.

competition sponsors

The City of Boston
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Back Bay Council
Back Bay Planning and Development Corporation

endorsements

American Institute of Architects
American Society of Landscape Architects

awards

First Prize $5,000
Second Prize $2,000
Third Prize $1,000

Honorable Mentions may be given, without cash award, at the discretion of the jury. The jury shall award all cash awards, but it is not required to recommend any competitor for award of the contract.

eligibility

The competition is open to any individual who meets any one of the three criteria listed below. An association of individuals such as architects, landscape architects, city planners, civic and urban designers, engineers and sculptors grouped together expressly for participation in this competition will be admitted provided that at least one member of such a group meets any one of the same three criteria, as follows:

1 / An architect registered in the United States of America.
2 / A landscape architect registered in any of those States where registration is available.
3 / In any State or territory of the U. S. A. where landscape architect registration is not available, the landscape designer is required to complete the statement that he has served as a principal of a firm actively engaged in landscape design for a period of not less than three years, and provide two letters of professional reference.

exceptions

No employee of the Boston Redevelopment Authority or any other public employee of the City of Boston is allowed to compete, nor are employees of any member of the jury.

jury

PIETRO BELLUSCHI, F.A.I.A., Chairman of the Jury. Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
DANIEL U. KILEY, Site and Landscape Architect, Charlotte, Vt.
JOSE LUIS SERT, Dean of the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University/Principal, Sert, Jackson and Associates.
SIDNEY N. SHURCLIFF, A.S.L.A., Principal Shurcliff and Merrill, Landscape Architects.
HUGH A. STUBBINS, F.A.I.A., Vice-President, American Institute of Architects, 1964-65/President, Hugh Stubbins and Associates, Inc.
WILHELM VIGGO VON MOLTKE, Director of the Urban Design Program, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University.
H. RUSSELL BEATTY, President, Wentworth Institute
ROGER C. DAMON, President, First National Bank of Boston
DR. ASA S. KNOWLES, President, Northeastern University
BRYAN E. SMITH, Chairman of the Board, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

professional advisor

Charles George Hilgenhurst, A.I.A.
Director of Design Review
Boston Redevelopment Authority

required submissions

Black and white drawings, outline specifications of materials, including quantity takeoffs and cost estimates.

site

In 1883, the City purchased a triangular lot in the heart of Back Bay and named it Copley Square, in honor of the great Colonial Boston artist John Singleton Copley, and in recognition of the fine arts community that then centered around it. Today, Copley Square has two acknowledged masterpieces of American architecture, Henry Hobson Richardson's Trinity Church, and the Boston Public Library by McKim, Mead, and White. These, and the New Old South Church are the only remaining original elements.

For decades planners and architects have pointed out that the closing of Huntington Avenue between Dartmouth and Clarendon Streets was the key to developing the full potential of Copley Square. At long last, the necessary legislation has been passed and this segment of the road has been closed. The competitors are now presented with the opportunity of creating a unified and significant design for Copley Square, worthy of its architectural and historical importance, that would reestablish it as one of the great Squares of the world.

competition objectives

Copley Square may take any form proposed by the competitor within the conditions of the program. Buildings within the Square are neither desired nor allowed. Pools, walls, fountains, sculpture, lighting, trees, planting, and special landscaping effects are permissible. Each entry will be judged on the basis of its design and appropriateness to the Square's surroundings. Total construction costs will be strictly limited to $500,000.00. A professional estimator will check all submissions being considered for award and advise the jury as to their probable construction cost.

Complete materials, including photographs, plans, sections, topos, utilities and traffic information will be supplied in the program, along with the rules and conduct of the competition and the drawings required.

financing of construction

The City's financial contribution to the Copley Square Competition will cover the street improvements and a minimum portion of the beautification. However, because of the wide civic interest in the beautification of Copley Square, it is planned that a fund raising campaign will be launched to finance the remainder of the cost of carrying out the winning design.

registration and questions

Complete registration forms and all questions concerning the competition should be mailed to:
Mr. Charles George Hilgenhurst, A. I. A.,
Professional Advisor, Copley Square Competition,
Boston Redevelopment Authority,
10th Floor, City Hall Annex, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

Information on the registration form will be used to determine eligibility by the Professional Advisor. His decision in all cases will be final. A registration fee of Fifteen Dollars must accompany registration. Eligibility of all competitors will be verified. Late forms will not be accepted.

schedule

October 15	Deadline for Registration and Official Program release
December 15	Final date for questions
February 15	Close of Competition
On or about March 15	Announcement of Awards

registration form / copley square competition

To be filled in, detached, and mailed to the Professional Advisor postmarked no later than October 15, 1965. Check or money order for Fifteen Dollars, made payable to Back Bay Planning and Development Corporation, shall accompany this Registration.

The undersigned hereby desires to become a competitor according to the terms and conditions of the program. Authorship of entries submitted by this competitor shall be credited as follows:

_____ Address for all mailing: _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

The individuals concerned in this authorship are listed as follows:

name (typed)	signature	profession* and number and state of professional registration	name and address of secretary of state registration board

*For those who practice landscape design in States or territories of the U.S.A. where landscape architectural registration is not available, a letter stating that the individual concerned has served as a principal of a firm actively engaged in landscape design for a period of not less than three years must be submitted on the firm's letterhead and attached to this registration form. Letters of reference attesting to this from two professionals in the same field must also be attached.